THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The total estimated amount/cost of repairs/re-building of damaged property is Rs. 145.00 crore. State-wise separate position are as under:

Gujarat	= 75.00 Crore
Orissa	= 30.00 Crore
West Bengal	= 40.00 Crore

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Bangalore-Patna direct train service

343. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Bangalore is an I.T. Nerve Centre and also Educational Centre in the country; and

(b) if so, whether Government would take steps to introduce direct train service between Bangalore and Patna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Introduction of a direct train from Bangalore to Patna has been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Electrification of railway tracks linking Bangalore

344. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the railway tracks linking Bangalore with metropolitan cities of the country are yet to be electrified;

(b) if so, what are the railway stretches which are required to be electrified; and

(c) whether any time schedule has been drawn up for completion of electrification of the tracks, to facilitate smooth running of long distance trains like Rajdhani Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The unelectrified stretches are mentioned below:—

(i) *On Bangalore-Mumbai route*

Bangalore-Dharmavaram-Guntakal-Wadi-Sholapur-Pune stretches are not electrified.

(ii) *On Bangalore-Kolkata route*

Bangalore-Dharmavaram-Guntakal-Dronachallam-Guntur stretches are not electrified.

(iii) *On Bangalore-New Delhi Route*

Bangalore-Dharmavaram-Guntakal-Dronachallam-Secunderabad stretches are not electrified.

(c) No, Sir.